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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/992,413	11/18/2001	William Ho Chang	FLEX.003	5528
23442 7590 12/17/2010 RYLANDER & ASSOCIATES PC P.O. Box 250 VANCOUVER, WA 98660			EXAMINER BENOIT, ESTHER	
			ART UNIT 2453	PAPER NUMBER
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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 09/992,413	<b>Applicant(s)</b> CHANG ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> ESTHER BENOIT	<b>Art Unit</b> 2453	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 August 2010.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 131-200 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 131-200 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)          | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Amendments***

1. This Action is in Response to a Request for Continued Examination filed on August 25, 2010. Claims 131, 133, 137-139, 142, 148-149, 152, 156-157, 159-161, 166-169, 171-172, 177-178, 180-183, 186, 189, and 195-199 have been amended. Claims 131-200 are pending in this application.

### ***Response to Arguments***

2. Applicant's arguments, see Remarks, filed 8/25/2010 have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Wolff (US 6,738,841 B1), in view of Larsson et al. (US 7,028,102 B1) and Eldridge et al. (US 6,515,988 B1).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claims 131-147, 172-179, and 189-194 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Claims 131, 172, and 177 are indefinite because the means for performing the claimed functions lack corresponding structures. It is not clear in the specification, which elements by which the means plus function claims can be implemented. Therefore, the claims are indefinite. See MPEP §2181. Claims 132-147,

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173-176, 178-179, and 189-194 do not provide any additional support for the structures of the “means for” limitations of claims 131, 172, and 177 and thus, are also indefinite.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 131, 133-137, 142-159, 161-185, 187-194, and 196-200 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wolff (US 6,738,841 B1), in view of Larsson et al. (US 7,028,102 B1).

**With respect to claim 131**, Wolff discloses a data output service system for rendering at an output device output content, managed from a information apparatus, the system having one or more servers for generating output data for rendering, the information apparatus being distinct and separate from the output device, and the one or more servers being distinct from the information apparatus and the output device (Abstract, *PDA sends request to printer for document printing*), the system comprising:

- means for receiving at the one or more servers a document object from the information apparatus over a network the document object relating to the output content (Col. 6, lines 1-6, *server receives request for document printing*)

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- means for receiving at the one or more servers an output device object from the information apparatus over a network, the output device object having one or more attributes corresponding to the output device, including an indication of a language and or data format that is acceptable as input to the output device for rendering (Col. 6, lines 43-63, *user requests document for printing and printer server formats document for performing document handling operations*);
- means for generating device dependent output data at the server with a server application, the device dependent output data being associated with the output content and related at least in part to the indication of a language or a data format included in the output device object received from the information apparatus for rendering the output content (Col. 6, lines 43-63, *user requests document for printing and printer server formats document for performing document handling operations*);
- means for delivering the output data to the output device for rendering the output content (Col. 5, lines 33-42, *document requested is printed*).

Wolff does not explicitly disclose means for receiving from the information apparatus at the one or more servers a security or authentication information associated with the user operating the information apparatus for authentication of the user, and in dependence of a successful authentication of the user, enabling the user access to the data output service;

However, Larsson discloses means for receiving from the information apparatus at the one or more servers a security or authentication information associated with the user operating the information apparatus for authentication of the user, and in dependence of a successful authentication of the user, enabling the user access to the data output service (Col. 12, lines 12-41, *user sends authentication information to the information provider for authorization*);

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Wolff with the teachings of Larsson to provide the server with authentication information, *because* it will prevent any unauthorized access from reaching the output device.

**With respect to claim 133**, Wolff discloses means for receiving from the information apparatus one or more job objects having one or more attributes corresponding to the output job, including output quality (Col. 6, lines 43-63).

**With respect to claim 134**, Wolff discloses in which the output device object includes a pointer or a reference to the language or the data format (Col. 6, lines 43-63).

**With respect to claim 135**, Wolff discloses in which the output device includes a display output control unit for displaying data content (Col. 12, lines 60-67 and Col. 13, lines 1-5).

**With respect to claim 136**, Wolff discloses in which the output device is a printer and the output data includes one or more of an image data, a graphics data, and text data (Abstract, *printing*).

**With respect to claim 137**, Wolff discloses in which the information apparatus is a wireless information apparatus and includes one or more of a palmtop computer, a handheld computer, a laptop computer, a personal digital assistance (PDA), a smart phone, a screen phone, Internet pad, internet appliance, and a digital camera (Abstract, *PDA*).

**With respect to claim 142**, Wolff does not disclose obtaining authentication information from the information apparatus to authenticate permission for the information apparatus to access the data output service.

However, Larsson discloses obtaining authentication information from the information apparatus to authenticate permission for the information apparatus to access the data output service (Col. 12, lines 12-41, *user sends authentication information to the information provider for authorization*);

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Wolff with the teachings of Larsson to provide the server with authentication information, *because* it will prevent any unauthorized access from reaching the output device.

**With respect to claim 143**, Wolff discloses means for establishing a communication channel between the information apparatus and the server application, the communication channel including one or more of an Internet, a local area network, a cellular network, and a wide area network (Col. 4, lines 56-64).

**With respect to claim 144**, Wolff discloses in which the output device is an audio output device and the output data includes audio data (Col. 12, lines 60-67 and Col. 13, lines 1-5).

**With respect to claim 145**, Wolff discloses in which the output device is a display device and the output data includes one or more of an image data, an audio data, and a video data (Col. 2, lines 14-37, *tool for capturing images and other media*).

**With respect to claim 146**, Wolff discloses in which the document object includes a reference or pointer related to the data content (Col. 6, lines 43-63).

**With respect to claim 147**, Wolff discloses in which the means for generating device dependent output data at the server includes one or more of invoking, launching, calling, utilizing, and involving one or more applications (Col. 5, lines 33-42).

**With respect to claim 148**, Wolff discloses a method for generating a device dependent output data acceptable for rendering at an output device, the device dependent output data corresponding to output content accessible at least partly by a information apparatus (*Abstract, PDA sends request to printer for document printing*), the method comprising:

- delivering from the information apparatus at least part of a document object and at least part of an output device object to the server over a network, the document object being associated with the output content and the output device object including an indication of a language and or data format that is acceptable to the output device for rendering (Col. 6,



lines 43-63, *user requests document for printing and printer server formats document for performing document handling operations*);

- receiving from the server device dependent output data related at least in part to the indication of a language or a format included in the output device object delivered from the information apparatus (Col. 6, lines 43-63, *user requests document for printing and printer server formats document for performing document handling operations*);
- delivering the output data from the information apparatus to the output device for rendering of the output content (Col. 5, lines 33-42, *document requested is printed*).

Wolff does not explicitly disclose sending from the information apparatus to a server over a network, a security or authentication information associated with the user operating the information apparatus for authentication of the user, the server being distinct from the information apparatus and the output device, and in dependence of a successful authentication of the user, enabling the user access to the data output service;

However, Larsson discloses sending from the information apparatus to a server over a network, a security or authentication information associated with the user operating the information apparatus for authentication of the user, the server being distinct from the information apparatus and the output device, and in dependence of a successful authentication of the user, enabling the user access to the data output

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service (Col. 12, lines 12-41, *user sends authentication information to the information provider for authorization*);

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Wolff with the teachings of Larsson to provide the server with authentication information, *because* it will prevent any unauthorized access from reaching the output device.

**With respect to claims 149-159, 161-185, 187-194, and 196-200**, the limitations of these claims are essentially similar to the limitations of claims 131-148. Claims 149-200 are simply variations of similar subject matter found in the claims above. For this reason, claims 149-200 are rejected for the same reasons as claims 131-148 above.

7. Claims 132, 138-141, 160, 186, and 195 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wolff (US 6,738,841 B1), in view of Larsson et al. (US 7,028,102 B1) and further in view of Eldridge et al. (US 6,515,988 B1).

**With respect to claim 132**, Wolff and Larsson do not explicitly disclose means for obtaining payment information from the information apparatus as payment for the data output service provided at the output device or as payment for sending the output data from the server.

However, Eldridge discloses obtaining payment information from the information apparatus as payment for the data output service provided at the output device or as payment for sending the output data from the server (Col. 2, lines 57-63).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Wolff and Larsson with the teachings of Eldridge to include payment information as payment for the service provided, *because* it will allow compensation to be acquired upon services furnished.

**With respect to claim 138**, Wolff and Larsson do not explicitly disclose in which the payment information is provided automatically by the information apparatus.

However, Eldridge discloses the payment information is provided automatically by the information apparatus (Col. 2, lines 57-63).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Wolff and Larsson with the teachings of Eldridge to include automatic payment to be received, *because* it will allow compensation to be acquired upon services furnished.

**With respect to claim 139**, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claim 138 above. In addition, Eldridge discloses in which the payment information is provided through the information apparatus as entered by a user in response to a prompt to enter payment information (Col. 2, lines 57-63).

**With respect to claim 140**, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claim 138 above. In addition, Eldridge discloses in which the payment information includes service subscriber information corresponding to a pre-arranged subscription to the data output service system (Col. 2, lines 64-67 and Col. 3, lines 1-10).

**With respect to claim 141**, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claim 138 above. In addition, Eldridge discloses correlating the data output service subscriber

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information with a subscriber database that stores subscriber profiles with subscription payment information (Col. 2, lines 64-67 and Col. 3, lines 1-10).

**With respect to claims 160, 186, and 195**, the limitations of these claims are essentially similar to the limitations of claims 132, 138-141. Claims 169, 186, and 195 are simply variations of similar subject matter found in the claims above. For this reason, claims 132, 138-141 are rejected for the same reasons as claims 169, 186, and 195 above.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Esther Benoit whose telephone number is 571-270-3807. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday between 7:30 a.m and 5 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Krista M. Zele can be reached on 571-272-7288. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

E.B.

December 13, 2010

/Krista M. Zele/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2453